

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Leks	
1. Is there a documented active lek on or within 2 miles of the offered acres that will be under contract if approved? (If the lek is located on the applicants operation they must be willing to share this information with NRCS in order to receive points). 100 Pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conservation Reserve Program Acres	
2. Will the offered acres include expired or expiring (this calendar year) Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres that will be maintained, enhanced, and/or established to LEPC habitat? These acres must be managed under practice 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management. 100 Pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Woody Invasives	
3. Will the offered acres include treatment of woody vegetation to improve LEPC habitat? 100 Pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Conversion to LEPC Habitat	
4. Will the contracted acres include cropland and/or non-cropland acres that will be converted to LEPC habitat to address a need identified in the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guide (WHEG)? 25 Pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Prescribed Burn	
5. Will a Prescribed Burn Plan promoting LEPC habitat be applied under contract? 50 Pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Current Plan	
6. Is the application supported by a current (less than 5 years old) NRCS Conservation Plan, that addresses LEPC concerns? 25 Pts	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will the contract include CPS 645, CPS 528 and/or CPS 550 to promote LPC nesting habitat and/or increase forb cover and diversity (LPC brood habitat) on the offered acres? 25 Pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the contract include CPS 560, CPS 382, CPS 500 and/or others as appropriate to modify man-made structures to reduce habitat fragmentation? May include marking fences, reducing man-made vertical structures, and re-routing fences to avoid leks/nesting sites. 25 Pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will Brush Management (314) or Woody Residue Treatment (384?) be included to reduce woody plant encroachment or vertical structures on LPC habitat? 100 Pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will CPS 472 and/or CPS 643 be included to protect sensitive areas (swales, depressions, dunes, springs, playas) from negative impacts? 10 Pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will be the deferment (on more than 25% of the offered acres) be for at least two years to promote LPC nesting habitat? 30 Pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the contract include conservation practices that establish native grassland on cropland acres? 60 Pts.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency:
Local Issues:
State Issues:
National Issues:
Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: